

Eastern Region Training Summit May 7-8, 2013 – Cherokee, NC Ms. Stephanie E. Birdwell, Director



Summit Objectives

- The goal of these meetings is to increase access to VA healthcare and benefits through informative presentations and interactive discussions about VA's efforts to reach military Veterans in Indian Country.
- Specifically, OTGR goals are:
 - Increase Veteran Access to healthcare and benefits
 - Economic Sustainability
 - Tribal Consultation

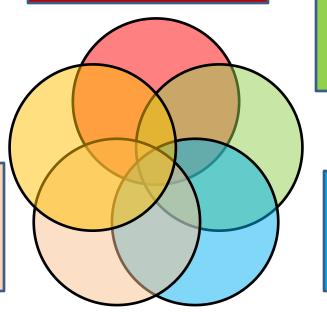




American Indian/ Alaska Native Tribal Governments

National Cemetery Administration (NCA)

Veterans Health Administration (VHA)



Office of Tribal
Government Relations
(OTGR)

Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA)

OTGR Outreach & Public Engagement

- OTGR Regional Staff network, partner, collaborate in Indian Country including:
 - Meeting with Tribal Leaders, Tribal Health Directors, Tribal Veterans
 Representatives of tribes within our regions to facilitate improved access to healthcare and benefits
 - Meeting with Veterans helping to field concerns related to healthcare or benefits
- During FY 2012, VA/OTGR held 7 regional training meetings with over 600 attendees.
- OTGR website active <u>www.va.gov/tribalgovernment</u>
- Veteran Court Resource Guide
- VA published a report on American Indian and Alaska Native Service members and Veterans
 - http://www.va.gov/VETDATA/docs/SpecialReports/AIAN_Report_FINAL_v2_7.pdf





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